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# Baby Arizona News

## \*\*\*Tobacco Use and Pregnancy\*\*\*

*Did you know that if the national prevalence of tobacco use before or during the first trimester of pregnancy was decreased by one percentage point annually, it would prevent 1,300 babies from being born at low birth weight and save \$21 million in direct medical costs in the first year alone?*

According to the Office of the Surgeon General, tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of poor pregnancy outcomes in women in the United States. Tobacco use is attributed to significantly increased risks of pre-term delivery, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirths, miscarriages, low birth weight babies, and small gestational age babies. There are numerous health benefits to be had for both mother and baby when the decision to quit using tobacco has been made. The Arizona Department of Health Services' Tobacco Education and Prevention Program (ADHS-TEPP) offers a variety of valuable, no-cost services to promote quitting tobacco including support from trained counselors through county, grassroots, tribal or community-based cessation programs and/or telephone-based assistance through the Arizona Smokers' Helpline (ASHLine). For more information on how to access these services, please call the Arizona Smokers' Helpline at 1-800-55-66-222, or visit their website at [www.ashline.org](http://www.ashline.org).

In addition, the HealthCare Partnership is available to provide healthcare professionals with the knowledge and skills of evidence-based practices in tobacco use prevention, treatment, and control within today's healthcare systems. Providers can receive training to deliver basic tobacco interventions for patients using the 5A model (Ask, Advise,

Assess, Assist, and Arrange). Providers learn to develop referral networks to services, to raise public awareness of the health risks of tobacco, and to discuss available treatment services and options. Participating providers can also receive continuing education credits. For more information, contact the HealthCare Partnership at 520-318-7032 or visit their website at [www.healthcarepartnership.org](http://www.healthcarepartnership.org).

ADHS-TEPP is paving the way for healthier birth outcomes in Arizona! For more information on what ADHS-TEPP has to offer, please visit [www.betobaccofree.org](http://www.betobaccofree.org).

## \*\*\*Please update your contact Information\*\*\*

Providers are encouraged to update their contact information as soon as changes occur to facilitate the delivery of valuable Baby Arizona news. Please contact the MCH Coordinator at 602.417.4381 to indicate changes in address, phone and/or fax numbers, or office contact persons. If offices have new staff in need of orientation training, the MCH Coordinator will relay important training dates. Question and/or concerns are welcomed anytime

### **\*\*\*Baby Arizona website is about fast connection to healthcare for pregnant women\*\*\***

Pregnant women in Arizona now have a new source for health care information, [www.BabyArizona.gov](http://www.BabyArizona.gov). The new website created by AHCCCS and funded in part by the Governor's Office for Children, Youth, and Families, provides information to pregnant women about Baby Arizona, the streamlined application process for AHCCCS health care. "We're expecting you" is the message the site sends to pregnant women and asks two important questions: "Pregnant? No health insurance?" The homepage then spells out the key components of the program:

- Quality Care. Less waiting. Less hassle.
- Choose your doctor
- Free pregnancy test
- Apply for medical coverage at the doctor's office
- No charge to start your care

Women can easily find a doctor in their area through the website and the contact information for that doctor. If a women needs pregnancy and health tips, they can find it through BabyArizona.gov, as well as, links to other community resources.

BabyArizona.gov also contains information for health care providers who are currently registered with Baby Arizona or who want to find out how to sign-up as a Baby Arizona provider. Online request forms for materials and program training are also available on the website. Most importantly, providers can update contact information online, which is very important to maintain updated records.

**Remember we're always here to help  
at 1-800-833-4642  
or at BabyArizona.gov**

### **\*\*\*CHANGES IN S.O.B.R.A. Pregnant Woman Income Limit\*\*\***

On June 25, 2007 Governor Janet Napolitano signed House Bill (HB) 2789 which included an increase to the income limit to the AHCCCS SOBRA program. SOBRA provides medical coverage to pregnant women and children up to the age of 19 years old.

The SOBRA pregnant woman income limit will be increased from 133% to 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

The new income limit will be effective 10/01/07 pending approval from the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

For information on Baby Arizona or pregnancy call 1-800-833-4642 or visit [www.babyarizona.gov](http://www.babyarizona.gov).

### **\*\*\*Breast feeding hotline is now 24/7\*\*\***

The Pregnancy and Breast Feeding Hotline, also known as the Baby Arizona Hotline, maintained by the Arizona Department of Health Services now provides Breastfeeding support 24 hours a day 7 days a week. During normal business hours the hotline staff answer the breastfeeding calls and provide support to callers as needed. Each hotline team member is a Certified Lactation Councilor. Additionally a International Board Certified Lactation Councilor is available during non-business hours and for consultation with hotline staff.

### **\*\*\*Changes in SOBRA Family Planning\*\*\***

Changes have been made in the SOBRA Family Planning Extension Program as a result of the new AHCCCS 1115 Waiver. Family planning services are provided to eligible members who lose SOBRA eligibility at 60 days post partum for up to 24 months through the Family Planning Extension Program. However, eligibility for the Family Planning Extension Program must be re-determined annually (this includes income eligibility), in accordance with 42 CFR 435.916.

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services now requires states to facilitate access to primary care services for enrollees in the Family Planning Extension Program. This does not replace written materials that explain how recipients can access low/no cost family planning services when they lose eligibility.